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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/955,615	09/18/2001	Robert J. Divivier	ZETT 2149	1130
7812	7590	09/28/2005	EXAMINER	
SMITH-HILL AND BEDELL, P.C. 16100 NW CORNELL ROAD, SUITE 220 BEAVERTON, OR 97006			JUNG, MIN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2663	

DATE MAILED: 09/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/955,615

Applicant(s)

DIVIVIER, ROBERT J.

Examiner

Min Jung

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 September 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 1, line 7, it is not clear what is meant by "each referencing another of its storage locations"; is it an arbitrary storage location, or does it have more concrete meaning (in which case, the meaning should be clarified)? At lines 12-14, it is not clear whether or not the step of receiving and returning are just steps for the queue manager to approve the reading out of the multicast cell. A clarification is needed.

In claim 3, lines 5-8, it is not clear what is the identity of the "plurality of child FINs"; it needs to be defined.

In claim 15, step b, it is not clear what is meant by "another of the storage locations"; it should be clarified what the "another of the storage locations" signify. In step d, it is not clear if this step is a step for the queue manager to approve the reading out of the multicast cell. A clarification is needed. At line 15, "manger" should be corrected to ----manager----.

In claim 17, step g, it is not clear what is the identity of the "plurality of child FINs"; it needs to be defined.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

4. Claims 1 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Roy et al., US 6,246,682 (Roy).

Roy discloses a method and apparatus for managing multiple ATM cell queues. Regarding the present invention recited in claims 1 and 15, Roy teaches a method and apparatus for receiving, storing and forwarding multicast cells and unicast cells, the apparatus comprising a cell buffer, including a plurality of storage locations and a first database, for receiving and writing a multicast cell into a first one of its plurality of storage locations, for thereafter generating a plurality of first pointers, each referencing another of its storage locations, and for creating a separate entry in its first database for each generated first pointer, the entry relating the first pointer to the first storage

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location to which the multicast cell was written (Roy teaches a shared RAM 36a in Figs. 1 and 2, showing a plurality of storage locations storing data elements, a plurality of pointers referencing storage locations, and creating separate table entry QLF for the pointers, see Fig. 2, and col. 4, line 59 – col. 5, line 9) ; and a queue manager for receiving the first pointers generated by the cell buffer and for thereafter returning the first pointers to the cell buffer, wherein upon receiving each first pointer returned by the queue manager, the cell buffer consults the first pointer's entry in the first database to determine the first storage location the entry relates to the first pointer, and then reads an instance of the multicast cell out of that first storage location (management RAM portion 36b is used to manage the shared RAM, col. 4, lines 41-42, the functions of reading out the multicast cells is shown in Figs. 8-10).

Conclusion


5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Harriman et al. patent, the Brown patent, the Mizukoshi et al. patent, the Uriu et al. patent, the Wong et al. patent, the Runaldue et al. patent, and the Brownhill et al. patent, are cited for further references.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Min Jung whose telephone number is 571-272-3127. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Thursday, Friday 7:30 - 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ricky Ngo can be reached on 571-272-3139. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MJ
September 27, 2005


Min Jung
primary Examiner